manufacturer. The major reasons are energy conservation, higher operational efficiency, service reliability, easier and reduced maintenance. reduced in-effective and higer availability for traffic use. There is no proposal to import diesel locomotives to replace the type of diesel locomotives being manufactured by CLW.

Construction of foot over-bridge at railway stations

2523. SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to construct foot over-bridge at Palnagar, Gobra, Mirzapur, Bankipur, Balarambati, Madhusudanpur, Porabazar, Sabaichandi, Nabagram, Chanchai Halt stations;

(b) if not, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what is the number of passengers who travelled from these stations during the last three years, Station-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Provision of foot-over-bridges at different stations is planned on a need-based programme subject to availability of funds. Foot-over-bridges are not available at Belanagar, Gobra, Mirzapur-Bankipur Balarambati, Madhusudanpur, Porabazar, Sibaichandi, Nabgram, Chanchai Halt stations and proposals to provide foot-over-bridges at these stations will be considered for inclusion in Railway's future works programme, subject to availability of funds and comperative needs of other stations.

(c) Stations-wise figures of average number of passengers booked per day during the last three years are indicated beow:—

	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88
1. Belanagar .	1030	1260	1289
2. Gobra . .	1124	1244	1288
3. Mirzapur-Bankipur .	1255	1647	1515
4. Balarambati .	1193	1405	1558
5. Madhusundanpur . .	1314	1219	1231
6. Porabazar .	577	876	664
7. Sibaichandi .	766	949	1049
8. Nabagram .	392	463	485
9. Chanchai Halt	152	175	200

Making Kanchanjunga Express and Tista Brahmaputra Express as Daily Trains

2524. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to run 57/58 Kanchanjunga Express and 67/68 Tista-Brahmaputra Express as daily trains;

(b) if so, by when stating the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) 57/58 Howrah-New Jalpaiguri Kanchanjunga Express and 67/68 New Jalpaiguri-New Bongaigaon Tista-Brahmaputra Express have been merged to run as a daily service between Howrah and Guwahati since 1-5-1988.

(c) Does not arise.

Stoppage of Avadh-Assam Express at Falakata

2525. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the basis forgranting stoppage of trains at different stations; and